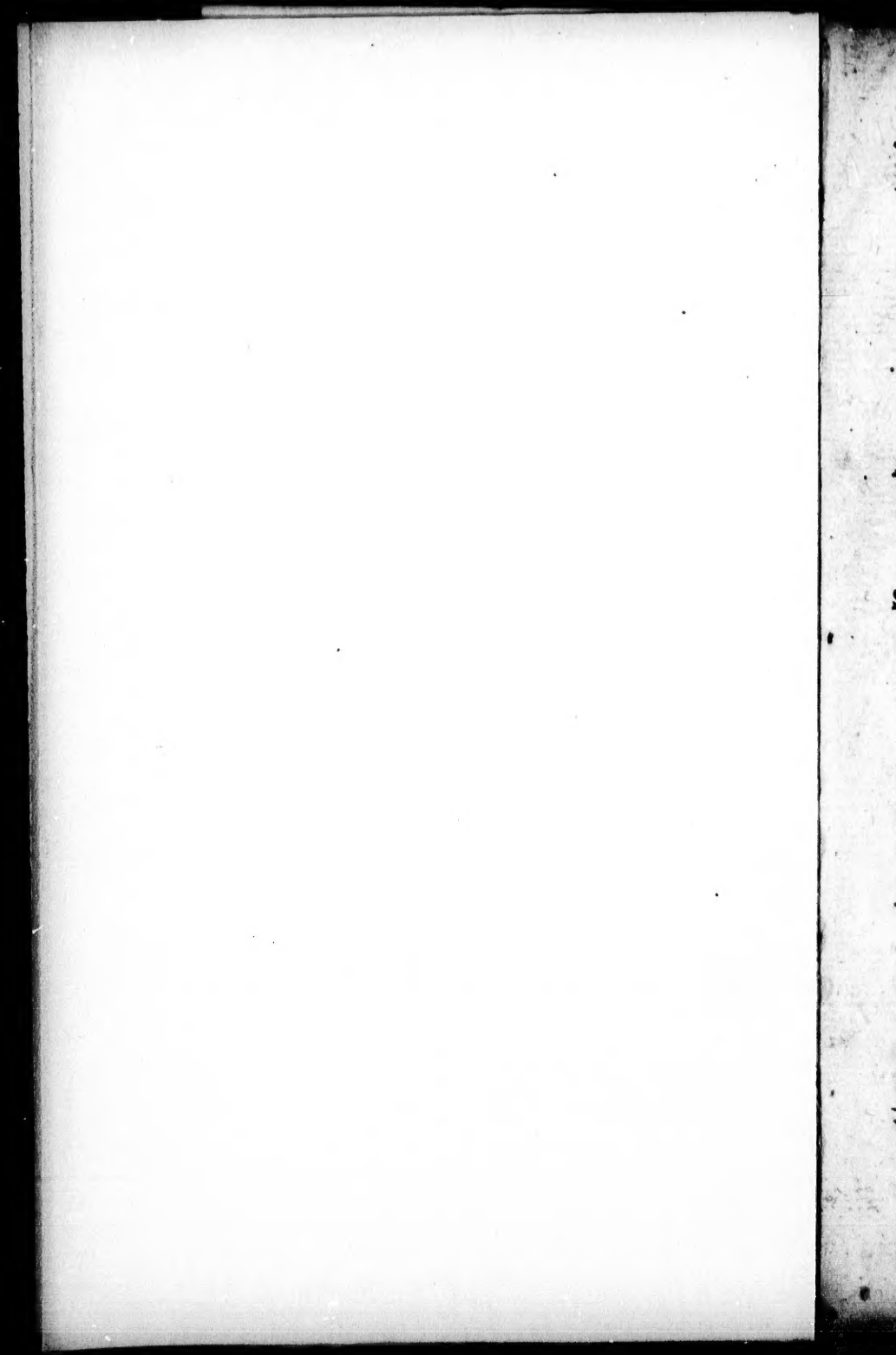




A L E T T E R

T O

A Person of Distinction in Town,

F R O M

A GENTLEMAN in the Country.

C O N T A I N I N G,

Some REMARKS on a late PAMPHLET,
intitl'd, *A Free and Candid Inquiry, &c.*

*—Is there not some chosen Curse,
Some bidden Thunder in the Stores of Heav'n,
Red with uncommon Wrath to blast the Man
Who owes his Greatness to a Country's Ruin!*

ADDISON'S CATO.



D U B L I N :

Printed in the Year M DCC LIII.

1753

LETTER

A Person of Education in 1790

A Gentleman in the Country

REMARKS on a late PARLIAMENT.
London, A. and C. Smith, 1790.

Printed by A. and C. Smith, in Strand, near the Theatre Royal, in the Year 1790.

Price 1s.



DUBLIN

Printed in the Year 1790.

A
L E T T E R
T O

A Person of Distinction in Town,
FROM
A GENTLEMAN in the Country.

My LORD,

YOU desire my Opinion of the Pamphlet you sent me, and I think it the first unreasonable Injunction I ever met with from you : It is a Production of so odd a Nature, that it is very hard to reduce it to a Subject for Criticism : To say the Truth, its first Appearance is so ambiguous, that it has puzzled many People to determine whether it is intended to befriend or hurt the Cause it would seem to espouse. For my Part, I think that, on a minute Perusal, there is no Difficulty in seeing that the Author was seriously doing his best : There is a hearty Zeal and Interestedness appearing, in the strongest and most unaffected Colours, through many Passages of it, that must, I think, leave little Doubt of the Gentleman's Sincerity, with every Reader of tolerable Discernment.

The Difficulty I complain of does not therefore consist in any Uncertainty about the Intention of this Work, but in the Irregularity of the Manner, and Absurdity of the Matter, of the Arguments; the confident Assertions of the most notorious Falshoods, and the poisonous Virulence of the Reflections: For all these, and numberless other *Peccata* which occur in every Line, put the Patience doubly to a Trial; first, in following such an Author through all his tedious and ridiculous Perplexities; and next, in restraining from that Invective, which, however merited, does no Honour to the Observer.

I shall, however, at your Desire, let you know what occurred to me on the Perusal of this extraordinary Piece. I will take no Pains to methodize or adorn my Thoughts; they are your Due, you shall have them in their natural Dress, and, I hope, will approve them; but let your Good-nature, I beg you, act only on your private Judgment, and do not hurry them to the Press merely upon your own Liking; your Eye sees false through the *Medium* of Friendship, therefore take some auxiliary Opinion, not subject to the same Deception, to your Aid; if your Opinions concur, you have my Leave to print what I send you; if the Sentiments are nugatory or injudicious, they will, at least, do no Harm; they are the Produce of a good Intention, not glossed or varnished with a splendid Diction.

I know not yet how long my Letter will be;
but

but if it can conveniently be done, I think a News-paper will be the best chosen Vehicle for Observations on a Writer of this Class: There is a Propriety, methinks, in displaying even weak and intentional Villainy, and exhibiting an Incendiary in the same Manner, which Custom has appointed for the advertising of lesser Rogues, and hanging them out to the public Caution. — But this to your own Discretion.

I will not, however, use you so ill as to deceive you, and therefore will not pretend that your Commands have been my sole Motive for this Letter: they, indeed, have added much to my Alacrity; but I must also confess, what would certainly be collected from my following Sentiments, that I take great Pleasure in an Occasion of declaring my Feelings on a Subject of this Nature, and glorying in the Profession, that I am inviolably attached in Favour of that Interest which is the true, old Basis of this Kingdom's Welfare, and which this Writer has laid himself to ridicule and abuse; my youthful Blood beat high in its Behalf, and the Experience of many Years has applauded and confirmed my Choice. Do not, however, think yourself excused from Severity, when you exact even these pleasing Declarations from me in a Manner so very disagreeable as investigating this Author through all the Turns and Doubles of his scandalous Performance.

It is, no Doubt, thought intolerably insolent, in your polite World, that such *useless* and *inglorious* Members of the Community, as we Country Gentlemen are, should presume to speak of political

political Movements with any Degree of Freedom; but it will be so, even in Despite of ourselves; few landed Men find themselves free from this impertinent Piece of Vanity; I don't know how it is, but a Property in the Soil of the Country will still bring with it not only a Solicitude and Concern about every public Measure, but also an idle, tho' irremovable, Prejudice that we have both a Right and a Power of censuring them; nay, a better Right than many who, though concern'd in the Conduct of Affairs, are no Sharers in the Events that may happen.

I wish you had told me who is thought the Author among you, for, at this Distance, it is hard to guess; every Reader has, indeed, the highest Reason to suppose in general, if not from the Motto, at least from the Matter and Form, of his Treatise, that this excellent Dissertation on Politics and Properties is the Work of no other than some little, four, attending Chaplain; all that Rancor and Bitterness, that entire Deficiency of Humanity and Politeness, that Steadiness in Falshood, that alternate Adulation and Insolence, both exerted with precipitate Stupidity, and that *feeling* Manner of exhibiting his grand Patron's *domestic Virtues* and *Generosity*, are palpably the Effluvia of such a Composition, the Result of, *at least, two* debauched *Parts*, a pampered Stomach and a heated Brain. But I wish we knew the Name; for my own Part, had the Book a little more of the Buffoon in it, I would venture to answer for the Author, and fill up the Blank in the Title Page, with the recommendatory Epithets of *Apologist*, *Parasite*, and SPY.

But

But to proceed to my Task. — Our Author sets out with a very effectual Recommendation of his Performance; he tells us “ That every Person “ who walks the Streets knows as much of these “ Matters as himself;” “ that, indeed, he has “ no Opportunities of coming to a Knowledge of “ them, and that tho’ there are Divisions among “ us, yet the Causes of them are known to but “ few, if any.” Nay, he informs us (in *Page 9.*) that “ neither the Leaders, nor their Associates, “ know what it is they contend about.” From all this one would expect but a very indifferent *Ecclaircissement*; but the Author, after a Flourish or two more, steps with the greatest Ease into a profound *Inquiry*, not only into the Nature and Particulars of our present Feuds, but also into those latent Principles in the human Breast, from whence these Divisions take their Rise.

He next proceeds to play upon us that stale Device of Innovators, and their Adherents, to lay our Caution asleep by inculcating a Notion of Security, and assuring us, that no Harm is intended. This Stroke of Policy he often repeats, and tells us, as a farther Motive to Peace and Harmony, that *England*, our common Parent, is now without Parties and Distinctions, and that in all *Deference* and *Duty* to her we should follow her Example. Whether this Fact, or the Conclusion drawn from it, be just or not, we are obliged to our Adviser; and beg Leave to assure him, that we are as well inclined to enjoy the inestimable Blessings of Tranquillity as *England*, or any other Nation under the Sun, and (in *Swift’s* Phrase) to possess our Brogues and Potatoes in Peace; who are they then that hinder us? This

This leads me to an Observation which may help my Author out of the political Difficulty into which he has plunged, in *P. 11, & 12.* and enable him to reconcile those seemingly contradictory *Phanomena*, which the great Curiosity of his Researches has in that Place started to his Imagination.

He there is pleased to represent us *Insulars* as disposed to Faction, and proud to change to a prodigious Degree, allows this was not the Character of our Forefathers, and then puzzles himself for the Causes of the Change. By *Insulars*, I presume, he means to distinguish US of this particular Island, or he speaks quite foreign to the Purpose. Now that WE not only have been, but are, *at this Day*, distinguishable for a natural Propensity to social Benevolence in private Life, and to the most pacific Measures in public Concerns, let History, let our recent Conduct in the most dangerous Crises, and our universal Character among Foreigners, evince. This being undeniable, a Clue will be easily found to lead to the Source of our present Divisions; which, I fancy, will be found to take their Rise, not from our *natural* Dispositions, but from the Assiduity of some choice Spirits, who have imported, among other exotic Fashions, the laudable and noble Principles of spiritual and military Dominion. *French Heraldry* will tell you, these two are the *Supporters* of the royal Arms of that Kingdom. Now, because we have a Whim in Favour of our *old Way*, this Gentleman says we degenerate from our honest Ancestors. True it is, indeed, that for many Years neither *they* or *we* have had such a Tryal of our *national Tenacity* as at present; thro' that happy

happy Period the Felicity of a poor, but quiet, Situation has crowned this Isle. Struggling thro' the Disadvantages of an unreclaimed Soil, and a limited Commerce, we were not worthy the *Attention* of *polite Strangers*; hence it was, that, as our Author observes, we could *then* look forward with *Pleasure*, and provide for the Happiness of Posterity — that noblest of human Cares!

Permit me here, my Lord, to digress for a Minute into a favourite Sentiment; I have always thought that a tender Regard to the succeeding Generation is one of the most infallible Directors both in private and public Life; in the first, it is the best Preservative of our Souls, our Bodies, and our Fortunes; and as to Politics, it must, I think, effectually prevent that greatest of human Evils, *the concerting or assisting any public Plan, which, to gratify the Ambition and Avarice of a FEW, must curtail the Liberties of the Unborn.* Who, that will allow himself the least Reflection, can bring himself to tie the *indissoluble* Knot of Misery on the infant Hand, for the paltry Lucre of a *temporary* Place or Pension? Can the Promoters give an Equivalent for the Mite of a single Suffrage toward so iniquitous a Scheme? Some, it is true, may think their Families sufficiently *secured*, and Others may be indifferent to the Welfare of Posterity, as they are to their Procreation; but these are so very few, that this Argument may be said to be universally affecting.

I stand not single, my Lord, in this Opinion; thousands of honest Hearts can vouch its Truth, and Antiquity sanctifies the pious Tendency. Mar-

riages were encouraged as much to secure the Loyalty of the living Members to the Republic, by interesting them in its Fate, as to increase its Potency by the Accession of new ones. Eunuchs were introduced into Power by the politic *Cyrus*, as being detached from all Connexions with the present and future Race of Mankind, and, consequently, devoted to his Designs. For the very same Reasons they were excluded all Share in the Administration by the good *Severus*, who held them in Abhorrence: he saw both from Theory and Experience what Mischief they were capable of; selfish, pampered, designing, ambitious, and destitute of every endearing Tie that enlarges and amends the human Heart, they aimed solely at their own Elevation, and were Enemies, by Principle, to the public Good. Among other distinguishing Parts of their Character in those Times, we find the following remarkable one, *CLAUDENTES Principem suum, et agentes ante omnia NE QUID SCIAT.*

But to return to my Author. — The Tenor of what he labours, from his 5th to his 12th Page inclusively, seems to be this, as well as can be collected from the irregular and ambiguous Manner of his Writing; that our Veneration toward our Neighbour-Nation ought to be such, as effectually should stifle all Animosities among us; that our Constitution is carried at present to the highest Pitch of human Perfection, and that nothing but the most unjustifiable Caprice could incline us to that *Desire of Change* by which we are now so violently actuated. This, I think, includes the Substance of all that is said in the above-mentioned Interval,

Interval, and bears this obvious Paraphrase,
 “ that we *ought* to have, but have not, a great
 “ *Veneration for England, as our common Parent*;
 “ and that, omitting this, we break through all
 “ Rules of *natural Affection, Gratitude, Interest,*
 “ *Duty, and Dependence* ;” “ that our Constitu-
 “ tion, though so excellent, is odious to the rest-
 “ less Spirits of this Island ; that we are become
 “ turbulent ; and a *Faction* is *sprouting* and *bud-*
 “ *ing* among us, whose Intentions are to destroy
 “ its *exquisite Equilibrium*.”

The Justice of these Insinuations I leave to the public Decision, and the due Resentment against the Propagators of them, to the Breast of every honest Man in the Kingdom ; the Flame of conscious Integrity and Loyalty must kindle, in an Instant, at such insolent Misrepresentations. But this is not all ; we, who are Eye-witnesses, can easily see and refute the Falshood ; it is not therefore intended for *us* ; this babling Author does but echo the Cry of the Leaders of the Pack ; the grand Machine to be played upon our Happiness, is to confound the Interests of the Constitution with the Interests of the *Party* ; and, on opposing the latter, we are represented, on the other Side of the Water, as *disaffected Subjects* to our Sovereign, and *dangerous Rivals* to our *English Brethren*. Thus is private Ambition to be gratified under the Pretext of the public Good, all Opposers to be branded with the Epithet of *factionous*, and the most dishonourable Odium to be thrown upon the general Principles of this loyal People : nay, so far down does this deep-laid Plan descend,

that a paltry, mercenary Judge of Assize shall catch the Cue, and, on his Return from Circuit, make a solemn Report of the *Disaffection* of a Set of Gentlemen of the most unsullied Fame, and extensive landed Properties in their Counties; Vouchers and Securities for good Behaviour, sufficient, one would imagine, to overthrow the Authority of the combined *Bench*.

But surely, we may, notwithstanding this, keep up our Spirits, and not fear any bad Effect from this detestable Manner of Proceeding, however enraged we may be against the Authors of it. Our King, his Ministers, and the People of *England*, will respect our *Actions* as the surest *Spokesmen* for our Principles, and will not fail to allow them all that Weight which we flatter ourselves they deserve. On a late important Juncture we manifested a Firmness to our present glorious Succession, *full as* inviolable as any to be found in the royal Dominions. A great Part of this was, *doubtless*, owing to the *Statesman* who govern'd us at that Time: But I question whether a political Casuist would not allow *some small* Portion of the Merit to the Disposition of the People, especially as there were some Commotions in our Neighbourhood, where there was a Multiplicity of Statesmen at the Helm. To add an undeniable and more recent Proof of our carrying our Loyalty and Affection even to a *Nicety*, look back to the exemplary Proceedings against an inconsiderable Individual, tempted by an ill-judged Zeal to treat our Governors and *English* Friends in Words that seemed to want their due Respect,
and

and let our Alacrity, in punishing this offensive Incaution, speak aloud in our Behalf.

In short, it is to be seen through all this Part of our Author, that he would have us, in every Instance, consider ourselves as *Englishmen*; we are to venerate the Hem of every Garment which comes fresh out of *English* Air, and assist in the Promotion of *every Scheme* proposed to us by such as bear a Commission signed there, on Penalty of being stigmatized with the Mark of DISAF-FECTED, and what is all this for? “Why truly, says the Author, because, sooner or later, we all have issued from thence.”—Here, had he but Sense or Ingenuity to observe it, he has reconciled the whole Matter in his own Words, for though the Majority of us are descended from *English* Families, yet, I believe, few will be brought to think that it is of no consequence whether we have come *sooner or later* from thence; they, who fall under the last Predicament, have signalized themselves too much for us easily to forget the Distinction.

I cannot help repeating here a Circumstance, which, though low in itself, has Dignity enough to serve as an Illustration to our Author's Argument. An honest Fellow, of this Country, came to *London*, when I was there; I met him the Day he arrived, and made some Proffer of alleviating the solitary Uneasiness which Strangers usually feel in that Metropolis: *Let me alone, my Dear*, says he, *by my Soul, this is my own Country, FOR my Grandfather's First Wife was born in Cheap-side.*

Thus,

Thus, my Lord, you have an *Irish* Tale for his more polished one of the Nobleman and his Lady; which is so applicable, edifying, and new, that it calls for our Acknowledgments to the Author, who, really, between antique Quotations, and genteel modern Anecdotes, so agreeably diversifies his Performance, that nothing can more strongly display the Union of the Scholar, and the pretty Gentleman.

In the Course of his expatiating on these Sentiments, it is not unpleasant to observe, how he slides into a Variety of Expressions, extremely *picturesque*, and glowing with the proper Colours of some Characters whom he, by no means, intends to display. Thus, in *Page 5*. "THEY
 " must have very profligate Hearts, and very de-
 " vilish Tempers, who would endeavour to raise the
 " Devil here; nay, they must be weak as well as
 " wicked, &c. and if it be only the Pride of beading
 " a Party, to raise their Dignity by demonstrating
 " their Importance, the Result will probably disap-
 " point, &c." And in *P. 10*. "SUCH as possess
 " large Shares of Wealth will be hot, tumultuous,
 " and unruly; they will not only be impatient of
 " Restraint, but grasp at Power, &c." "PRIDE
 " AND PRESUMPTION indefeasibly grow out of
 " HASTY ADVANCEMENT, and the greatest Mor-
 " tification TO UPSTART PRIDE, IS TO SEE THOSE
 " OF LESS WEALTH IN HIGHER RANK, AND
 " MORE RESPECTED, &c." But above all, in the Beginning of the 14th Page, one would imagine his chief Patron was sitting for his Description, though it is evident, on the whole of the
 . Context,

Context, that it is a Scrap of that Scurrility vented every Day in Cabals against a Man who is an Honour to his Time, and to his Country. Many such involuntary Likenesses of his own Friends may be seen through this Author's Performance.

Much more may be said on this Part of the Pamphlet than is worth troubling you with; the Reader may see almost every Line abounding in Sentiments correspondent with those which I have already remarked.

But an extraordinary Stroke occurs in *P. 11.* He seems to retract a Concession he was on the Point of making, and will not allow *us* any Degree of Opulence, for that would admit of an Inference by no Means to his Wishes. However, to comfort us, he immediately after assures us, that our most sanguine Wishes would be answered, if a *Scheme, proposed about two Years ago, should take place*; and the only Fear the good-natured Gentleman has from this *glorious* Event is, that we shall grow too rich and too happy upon it, from whence may arise *Vanity, and Luxury, and a vicious, frantic, and profligate Behaviour.*

For my particular Part, though fifty Winters have so far reduced my Passions to the Authority of Reason, as to inspire me with a thorough Disgust and Contempt for the Folly of Vanity and Luxury, yet I would, with great Security of Mind, give my Consent to open the Sluice to all that Inundation of Wantonness with which this Author fears our Country would be overwhelmed in Consequence of this Event. To be sure it is hard to say, how far the Affection of our Neighbours

hours may tempt them to force upon us a Proportion of Happiness that may taint our Morals, and turn our Heads. But, I think, one may, with some Degree of Probability, say, that they would act the *Physician* as well as the *Friend*, and that every *Platona*, which might accrue, would be prevented, from doing much Mischief, by proper *Evacuations*. Thus should we, in my Opinion, be secured from waxing wanton and vicious; but should any Degree of Infection steal in among us, we might have our spiritual as well as *political* *Doctors* sent us, who, by their exemplary Lives, and excellent Endowments, would thoroughly exterminate every Kind of Imporality, and propagate the Interests of Virtue. The Specimens we are at present, and have been heretofore, blessed with, leave us no Room to doubt about their Conduct in this Particular.

Lown I think it a little odd, that this worthy Author does not do us the Favour of dwelling a little upon this Subject; one would imagine that a *Catastrophe*, of this Nature, deserves a little Pains to recommend and make it palatable; for, whatever he may think, we, *of this Country*, cannot help thinking it a Change of too much Importance to be rashly agreed to; nay, I can tell him, that some of us have so much of the Stupidity of the Climate in our Brains, as not to see distinctly all these Advantages arising out of it to this Kingdom, which are so palpable to the Eyes of Politicians; and, what is more than all, some of these very Persons, whose Assent to the Affair may, perhaps, be deemed necessary, are positive enough

enough to think, that no human Assurances, no Compacts, though ever so solemn, no speculative Conclusions, though ever so artful and masterly, nothing under an immediate Voice from Heaven to injoin it, can, or will, be sufficient with them, or any Man of Sense or Principle, to run the dreadful Hazard of the Effect of such a Scheme. This may, possibly, be an Error in us, and we may be pitied, by clearer-sighted People, as blind to our own Happiness: But our national Bigotry to old Customs is well known, and I really fear this is one of the Instances in which our Natures are irreclaimable.

But what are we to conclude from his superficial Manner of speaking of this *intended* Change? Surely, he can't be weak enough to think us reconciled to it: It is, therefore, either because it will not stand the Test of a minute and candid Discussion; or, that he imagines it needless, as impossible, to make it palatable to our Reason; for that it is not *that*, but our Passions are to be influenced, in order to effect this Scheme; Corruption and Menaces are to be the Instruments to work with, and Ambition, Avarice, or Fear, the leading Qualities of every Man who joins in its Promotion.

I shall not now, unnecessarily, detain your Lordship's, or the Reader's, Time, by enlarging on the many unanswerable Objections to this destructive Revolution; such as, the small Security we should have in our Representative Body, reduced (at least) to one Third of its present Size, and transported, once a Year, to stand our Bulwark

in the midst of five hundred Persons, who, tho' extremely well disposed to the Welfare of this *useful* Island, may yet chance to differ, sometimes, in Opinion from the aforesaid tiny Corporation; the *Possibility* that, out of these our Champions, one half, or more, may so far contract an *English* Taste, and fall in Love with some pretty Employments, as to forget poor *Ireland* in a good Measure; more especially, as they might not have left many valuable Memorandums behind them; the Convenience that some of the current Coin of this Kingdom would be of to these our *Residents* in *London*; the Dilapidations that may accrue to Mansion-seats and Improvements, and Beggary to Tenants, by Means of their absent Owners; the Addition to the Number of our, already too numerous, Absentees; the Decay of our Metropolis in its Imports, Manufactures, Buildings, and Inhabitants; the Care that would be taken to prevent us from outstripping our Neighbours, by levying a few superfluous Shillings in the Pound, among many other salutary Laws, which would prodigiously encourage the Cultivation of this Country, and forward our present thriving Situation, and against which we could never murmur, as having given *our own Consent*. — All these, and numberless other Considerations, that must strike the Attention of every Person interested in the Fate of this Nation, I shall forbear to dwell upon at present, and refer the curious Reader for a more particular Investigation of the Mischiefs that must arise to us, from this Event, to two Pamphlets, published about two or three Years ago,

ago, in which he will find the principal Arguments, on both Sides, set in Contrast to each other, and will see, in the strongest Light, the Superiority of the Negative.

It is an old Observation, my Lord, that there is no Tenet in Philosophy so absurd, but has had its Advocates; the same may be certainly said of Politics; Vanity and Singularity are, generally, the Sources of the first, and may have their Share in the second; but, I believe, there is an Ingredient in the latter, which seldom enters the Composition of the former, and that is Self-Interest. The Philosopher is little the better whether a Planet be in *Conjunction* or not, though the Party-Writer may receive some Emolument from the *Union-Scheme*; the Speculator will never be the richer for shewing that this Globe of ours moves in a Circle or an Ellipse, but the Politician may find his Account in driving us into *Excentricity* out of that *proper and distinct Orbis* in which our Creator has placed us, and in which we have revolved, with small Variation, from the Beginning. This Hint every Reader, and Hearer, of new-fangled political Systems, should bear in his Memory, and use his Caution accordingly, more especially at this Time, when a temporary Power of *distributing* makes it the *Interest* of many to recommend a Scheme, which a small Share of Penetration must demonstrate to be the most monstrous, detestable, and pernicious, that ever was formed against the Happiness of a Kingdom.

But I am growing more prolix than I intended; so hard it is to controul a Course of Thought on

an interesting Subject, be the promoting Cause ever so mean and frivolous.

The Interval, from the 14th to the 17th Page inclusive, is a Jargon of the thickest-laid Falshoods that were ever obtruded on the Public, as, indeed, it must necessarily be, when the Design was to vindicate the most iniquitous Plan of Proceedings that was ever concerted against the Repose of a deserving People. The many Untruths and Contradictions; that every Line contains, I shall leave to the Animadversion of every Reader who knows any Thing of the Transactions of last Session; one or two, only, I cannot refrain from speaking to. The first is, the strange Metamorphosis he speaks of, where “ *the staunch good Courtiers,* “ *as if touched by some magic Wand, at once be-* “ *came Patriots; and many, who had formerly passed* “ *for staunch Patriots, were said to turn Courtiers.*” — Now, the Truth of that Matter is, that *those*, who then became (as he says) Patriots from Courtiers, in Fact underwent no Change, at all, but in the *Manner* of exerting their former constant Principles; they were always *Patriots* in the true Sense of the Word; they shewed an equal Attachment to both Parts of the Constitution, in order to keep the Ballance poised, and thereby preserve the Good of the whole; they kept up the Dignity of the Crown, because it was necessary to the Support and Happiness of the People. On the other Hand, these splenetic Opposers, who (as our Author says) *had formerly passed for staunch Patriots*, either from Envy or personal Pique to the Head of the other Interest, or the Hopes

Hopes of having their mighty Eloquence and Importance bought over by warm Employments ; these Gentry, to their immortal Honour, these PATRIOTS, united all their Force with that Association, whose every Scheme tended, in the most dangerous Degree, to the Ruin of the Country. The *first* acted consistently with their Conduct of many Years before ; they *were* and *are* the Guardian-Angels of that political Equipoise, on which our Felicity depends ; and, as such, flew off at the Appearance of *Ambition* incroaching under the Mask of *Authority*.

How conformable the Conduct of the other Side, on this Occasion, was, to their former Declarations, is most contemptibly apparent. Good Heaven ! what a Sight ! to see the HONEST MAN, the inflexible Prince of Patriots, standing single in the Negative to every Resolution that passed a Censure on a *disbonest* Servant of the Public, and, through him, on his Supporters, who made the Protection of a Miscreant the Trial of their Abilities, which were next to be turned upon the Vitals of the Country ! How low is he fallen ! How irretrievably lost in every Opinion !

But, to do Justice to his Masters, he has got his Reward, and so have others of the same Class ; so that, though inconsistent with their Appellation, they have exactly pursued their Intentions, which, doubtless, long have been to watch a divided Channel of Power, and throw themselves into *that*, whose Waters may raise them on the Surface, though their Country should perish in the Deluge ; by this they have the double Enjoyment

ment of opposing the Interest they inveterately hate, and receiving those Emoluments from one Side, which their Want of Principle, and Want of Consequence, have long since shut the Door against from the other.

You remember, my Lord, *Shakespeare's* Image of the Fluctuation of human Matters, *'the Tide in the Affairs of Men, which taken at the Flood leads on to Fortune; omitted, all the Voyage of their Lives is bound in Shallows.'* — To this Tide have our Patriots committed themselves; and, I fancy, a political Philosopher will think they are now at High-Water.

But for ever be remembered, for ever honoured, the Names of the illustrious Few, who, though formerly hurried, by their Friendships and Connexions, into a Path distinct from our Country's Friends, now generously relinquished every inferior Gratification, and buried every private Animosity in Oblivion! Their COUNTRY called, and spread its inviting Banner, to which, with Alacrity, they repaired, and, by their inviolable Firmness, shared the Glory of IT'S Victory.

The String of Interrogatories, so impudently produced in the 17th Page, are, really, very unparallelled; there is not a single one of them to which an Answer, directly contrary to the Wish of the Questioner, may not be, with the greatest Truth, returned; I shall, therefore, take my Leave of them, and proceed to the grand Design of his Work which next appears, only observing the great Modesty and Reasonableness of our Author, in deciding so material a Matter by his
single

single Authority, as he does toward the End of this Page.

Give Ear, ye Nations, let *England, Ireland, and Italy* rejoice at the Sound of the Praise, and Enumeration of the VIRTUES, of our Metropolitan! An arduous Task! — But our Author takes the easiest, and, indeed, the only, Method, of performing it; he invents, and asserts, them. Conscious of his own Dependence on him, he takes more than ordinary Pains to blind us into a Belief of his Impartiality, confesses, that *what comes from a Man, tied fast to a Party, must pass for nothing*, and blunders at the Author of *Roger*, rather than omit a Stroke at a Pamphlet, which is never to be forgiven by the Proprietors of the Characters it so humourously, and justly, exposes.

To represent the Man, who is in this Kingdom the best intitled to the first Honours, and greatest Confidence, both of his Sovereign and every Vice-Roy, as discontented *only* on Account of the Preference shewn to another, and every Odium thrown upon the last as taking its Rise entirely from this Source, is an Insinuation as ridiculous as false. It is, indeed, very true, that a Deficiency of *proper Qualifications* prevented the first from being joined in *the Cabal*, and changed that Deference, which was his Due, into an insolent and inveterate Opposition. We will allow that he has, all his Life, wanted Passions and Principles adapted to the *managing* Junto, and he is, at the same Time, so happy as to want every Wish of enjoying what he is thus, by Nature, unqualified for; but to rest the numberless Imputations

thrown,

thrown, from *every Quarter*, upon the other, on this chimerical Foundation, no Person will consent to, when *Vouchers*, and *Facts*, offer every Day to support them.

I shall not, however, unnecessarily task myself to develop the Injustice of the Eulogiums which our Author has here so plentifully bestowed on his Patron; they are, indeed, no more to the promised Intent of his Book, than a Catalogue of the Virtues of an Hero of Antiquity; for though the Head of our Church were indued with every Excellence of *St. Peter* in his private Capacity, few Persons would therefore rest their political Belief on his Infallibility, and follow him blindfold into destructive Measures, though his Sanctity were infinitely more rigid than even his own Writer adventures to describe it.

I shall, therefore, only desire the Reader to observe, whether he does not see this *Artificer* of Virtues chuckle at his Arrival in his well-known Province of Adulation, and revel there at large: With what a prodigious Shew of Impartiality he conducts the whole; and how particularly eminent this appears in two of his Assertions; one, that the blackest Crime alleged is *impossible* to be true; the other, that none of these Aspersions were thrown till within these three Years. A competent Knowledge of human Nature will sufficiently answer the first, and every Person's Memory the latter.

The subsequent Story is of the same Connexion with the Title Page as the precedent Encomiums; but he has descanted on it in such a Manner, that I must beg Leave to speak a few Words to it.

That

That the Offer, there mentioned, was made to that Nobleman, all, that I have met with, rest thoroughly convinced of; that on being made public, it was flatly and peremptorily *denied* by the worthy *Source* of the Proposal, is also, in the highest Degree, credible, and as universally allowed to be no Argument against the *Fact*; it is, indeed, most exactly of a Piece with many other Procedures of the same Person. And, that the Offer was *TANTI* will, I believe, be as little controverted. Were the Acquisition of a Person of his Rank and Property (whose very Appearance, in Favour of a Cause, must throw more Lustre and Credit upon it, than the whole Bench of Bishops) of no more Value than this Author pleases to represent it, yet even *one, two, or three* Voices would be worth a *Promise* to the desperate Party; and how much more than a Promise would be paid for any such Services, when the Scale was once turned, may be judged from the distinguishable Honour and Honesty of the Promiser, and other Leaders of that Side of the Question. Supposing, therefore, all the Disparity that is insinuated between the Offer and the Value to be received for it; yet, to every one who is acquainted with the Character and Conduct of the Bidders (and the lowest of the People, they *would govern*, consider them in their proper Light) it will never affect the Probability of the Fact, but only demonstrate the wretched Despondency they were then labouring under, offering exorbitant Interest for ready Money, like Bankers on the Point of failing. But, that the Person *attempted*

D

is,

is, and will be, of more Weight and Significance, in the political Ballance, than a *Feather*, or a *Grain of Sand*, we will submit to the Determination of the Event, when every Friend of *Ireland* shall, with Joy, behold it preponderate on the usual Side ; Ambition, Avarice, Corruption, and Vice of every Kind, will then *fly up and kick the Beam*, and there suspend aloft most eminently ridiculous to the most inconsiderable Spectators.

The Author's Art, in this Place, is really pleasant enough ; he would invalidate the Charge by telling us, " that this Proposal was made to the " Nobleman *at second-hand*, and to that second by a " *third* ; this, says he, must take away all Authority from the Story ; nor could one of his *Experience and acknowledged Abilities* be so indiscreet in conducting such a Scheme." We will, indeed, allow his Patron to have some Experience and Abilities in *bugger-mugger*, private Matters, though destitute of every Quality requisite for public Administration ; good Sense, and Cunning, are not only distinct, but rather incompatible, and he must be dreadfully unfurnished with the latter, who would, in Person, make so criminal an Offer to one whose Integrity would flame at the Mention, and prompt him not only to expose, but instantly chastise, in proper Terms, the insolent Proposer. It is true, indeed, that even in this Case an *easy* Recourse could have been had to the *old Expedient* ; the whole Proceeding could have been *flatly and peremptorily denied*, but not to much Purpose ; for, I believe, few will think, with our Author, that *neither* of the Parties could be capable

ble of a direct Lie ; so that the black Overture would, in such a Case, have been instantly and directly fixed on the prime Source of it. All this was foreseen, and Emissaries, therefore, employed to employ others to make the Proposal to the Person aimed at ; by passing thus through a Multiplicity of Hands, it became easy, at any Time, to deny, and retract, and throw a Mist, as they imagined, around the whole Affair, in Case of a Refusal. But I cannot help thinking it was a little shallow ; for the Method of Proceeding was so extremely *like* and *natural*, that it throws the highest Lustre of Credibility on the Story, against which the Author produces it as a formidable Argument.

If it were as true, that the mitred Invader of our Peace *is as much above every sordid Art of Corruption, and has too much Virtue of his own to traffick for the public or private Virtue of another*, as that the Nobleman, before-mentioned, *scorns every Temptation to Venality*, and exerts a Spirit that will make him honoured and beloved by Posterity, our Church and State would not be infested and dishonoured as they now are by the Possessor of the first Dignities in both.

The additional Motive urged, at the same Time, to gain this noble Profelyte, our Author treats as incredible from its Absurdity ; and the Absurdity, according to him, consists in these two Particulars ; 1st. " That a Man must divest himself of *all Probity* before he could bring himself to think of such an Expedient." 2. " That it was what he, nor no Man upon Earth, could

“ undertake for, nor, with all the Power of the
 “ Crown centered in himself, could make good.”
 The first we will readily grant as an undeniable
 Proposition, but, by no Means, as an Argument;
 the second we must as readily deny, and, for its
 Falsity, refer every Reader to a short Reflection
 on the Nature of our Constitution, by which, as
 well as by a little Experience, he will plainly see
 the Connection between those who have the
 Power of appointing, and Sheriffs, or other re-
 turning Officers, Juries, and Judges; these last
 particularly are well known to have much Influ-
 ence even on Trials, where they are properly no
 more than Explainers and Pronouncers of the
 Law, (to the Shame of *those* who are the *only*, the
true, and *independent* Judges of our Properties) not
 to mention the many Circumstances in which we
 have no Assistance from our *Peers*, but depend
 solely for our Happiness on *judicial* Decisions. In
 short, let the Superintendency of a Parliament
 be once taken off, by securing a *devoted* Majority
there, and place the *well-matched* Cabal at the
 Helm, and not only the Nobleman in Question,
 but every Man of Property in the Nation, shall
 acknowledge, from bitter Experience, the *Poss-*
ibility of our Properties being affected by a Change
 of Administration.

As to the Subject of our Author's Panegyric,
 being *neither Knave or Fool* — Were we not con-
 cerned in the Effects of his Qualities, he is in-
 trinsically too mean to detain us a Moment by
 the Discussion of them: But since he is sent us as
 a *temporary* Scourge for our Sins, I will take the
 Pains

Pains to say, that, as to the first, he shall be allowed this fair and *applicable* Trial; he shall stand or fall by the Test on which *Abraham* rests the Salvation of *SODOM*; if there be found one candid Heart in one hundred that will acquit him, the charitable Side shall prevail; and, for the Sake of that one, the World will acquit him also.

As to his being a Fool. — Besides that Share of Folly which always accompanies the former Part of his Character, I fancy his political Measures will never much redound to the Honour of his Wisdom, take the Argument which Way you will, either from the *Means*, or the *Event*.

His Advocate next proceeds (in *P. 27.*) to enumerate a pretty round Catalogue of *slighter* Articles exhibited against his Client by the Public; *slighter*, indeed, they are, tho' they would make a Figure any where else. But I shall not fatigue myself with following him through all the Articles of his Expurgation. The Display of the Inside of the House in particular makes me sick. Nor shall I refute the Defence made for the Neglect of his Diocese; if he would but abstain from his *Commissions*, we would readily pardon his *Omissions*; there are many Precedents for the latter, but very few for the former; not above two or three upon our Records. Nor shall I now be so needlessly severe on the rest of our mitred Peers as to say, that their *unnatural* Situation in the Legislature has been the Cause of more Commotions, than any other one Defect in our Constitution. What avails it to murmur? (as our Author justly insinuates.) Is it not better to wait, in silent Patience,

for

for that happy *Æra*, which our good Creator has certainly fixed for our Delivery from Enchantment and Infatuation ?

As to his Associates and Diversions, his Council here does not seem to plead against the *Facts*, but demurs to the *Crime*; and, according to Custom, puts us a Set of Questions, at the End of the 30th Page, almost every one of which may be answered to the Prejudice of the Accused. The last Article of the Charge is, I confess, with me no Crime at all; I have been so miserably pestered with black Gowns at Levees, that I would heartily join in their Extirpation.

Pages 32, and 33, contain some admirable abstracted Observations, ornamented with a Quotation from the venerable *Æschylus*, and an unanswerable one from the polite *Tacitus*. Much may be said, however, on the Word *Præceps*.

But we are now arrived, my Lord, at the only material Question in the Book; *Is he the Friend of our Country, and well affected to our Interest?* Our Author makes short Work of the Proof of the Affirmative, and that in so satisfactory a Manner, that every Reader must, after the Perusal, rest convinced, that *he* has no Attachment, can have none, *elsewhere*; that his Income must suffer sooner, and more sorely, by any additional Grievances that may affect this Nation, than the perpetual, landed Interests; that he is, by no means, a *Creature*, but great and independent *ab initio*, and, consequently, no fit Tool, or Instrument, for an *Occasion*; that were the Nation to suffer Shipwreck, no Care *could*, or *would*, be taken

taken to preserve his Revenue and Grandeur, that his Cares and Schemes are, by no means, confined to his own Life, but that, with a pious Solicitude, he looks forward, and consults the Happiness of After-Ages; that his Inclinations and Connections are such as must necessarily induce him to promote Peace and Harmony among us, as he is, at this Instant, doing; that *no possible Change can happen in which he could be greater, or even so great as he is*, as plainly appears by his not being in that State of miserable Restlessness, which must torment a Man, of his laudable Ambition, if he had a *Superior* in Friends, Interest, or Deserts; in short, there can be no Doubt but every honest and intelligent Reader, from these Arguments, and a Retrospection on his Conduct, Schemes, and Associates, must resolve to conspire his best Wishes in Favour of this Person who is so closely interested in the Fate of US ALL; who, as our spiritual Father, must be supposed to bless and pray for the People of his Predecessor St. Patrick, and who has so many Motives to stand our Friend, superior to them which actuate the other Person, whom we have, for several Years, so ridiculously doated on and admired.

But I should ask Pardon, my Lord, for growing ludicrous. The Subject does not, indeed, permit it, tho' the Author's Arguments do. It is true; no better could be had; but it was quite Fool-hardy to produce them.

Upon the Whole, my Lord, you have *heard his Defence*, and whether the Author is a *bad Advocate*, or his Patron *innocent and faultless*, you, and

and every other Person in the World, will, indeed, most palpably perceive.

I beg your Lordship to observe what noble Productions result from a muddy, undistinguishing, Understanding, & irritated by a Virulence of Heart; how a stupid vehemence hurries a Writer into Arguments, Expressions, and Discoveries, that expose to Ridicule and Abhorrence those very Characters in whose Behalf his Passion prompted him to take the Pen. This Book would certainly never have appeared, had he consulted any commonly-rational Friend, or even any of the Heroes of his Tale, before he committed it to the Press; I own, were I in their Situation, I would confine this reverend *Furioso*, and debar him the Use of Ink and Paper, until the Purposes of the Party were effected; then, indeed, he may be let loose, for tho' he would spoil any Cause he espoused, while Matters were in Suspence, yet, when the Nation was once *secured*, he would do admirably well to insult and worry; then Calumny, Scurrility, and Insolence, would have unlimited Indulgence, and who would presume to answer or resent? But, as Matters now stand, this mad Ecclesiastic must do infinite Mischief; and, I believe, they perceive this so far already, that we shall not find the Public insulted by any more Productions of the same Hand.

But I shall say no more on this Head; every honest Mind must conceive an adequate Odium against this Performance of our Author, and I would not be thought to carry even the justest Resentment too far. Tho' he has failed with the Public,

Public, yet his Friends may, probably, forgive him for the Sake of his Intention; he will be allowed some Merit as the first, tho' unsuccessful, Writer for the Party, and God may forgive him, and *Aaron* reward him.

Again, my Lord, I must ask Forgiveness for digressing; you know it is my Way, even on Paper. I was led into it by the Incoherency and Obscurity of this Writer's Ideas, of which a fresh Instance presented itself in the next Paragraph; I mean that in which he attempts to convey a true Notion of Patriotism. The Beginning of his Observation, on this Head, is not Sense. Yet his Meaning, on the whole, is plainly this, that real Patriotism consists more in complying sometimes with the Demands of our Governors, than in a rigid Perseverance to the exact Liberties of the People; the Tendency of this is pretty easily seen. Then, says he, "We should sometimes *humour* them in their Demands, tho' they should fall short of, or go beyond, what, in Strictness, we may have a *Right* to expect." And though, in one or two Places, he hits on a just Thought, yet this is apparently his Aim. Every one knows the first Step taken for the Introduction of every Vice, is to ridicule the Inflexibility and rigid Scrupulousness of Virtue.

This political Maxim will never, I believe, stand the Test either of Experience or Reason; As to the first, History will evince, that the *Magistrate* never desired to be *humoured* but with a bad Design, and was never indulged in it without dismal Consequences; and as to Reason, that, I

believe, will never be satisfied that the People should ever abridge their *Rights* by the Size of a Grain of Sand to *humour* any Person who is employed, and intrusted, *for no other Purpose*; but the exact and nice Preservation of even the smallest of these very Rights. Tho' this *Indulgence* should never go farther than a certain Limit, yet it is *so far* a *Wrang*, and the Assertion of its Propriety as much a *Falsbood*, as if it were to be ever so extensive; it is not, therefore, by any Means, to be received among a free People, even in the most restrained Sense.— But what End can be put to this Argument? May it not be used to purloin from us every Liberty, every Blessing, we enjoy, by insensible Degrees; if the Desires of the Governor are to be the *Modus* of the People's Compliance, what an unbounded Field shall we have for *Civility*!

Here, my Lord, are *Manwaring*, *Montague*, and *Sibthorp* again for us; these are the identical Doctrines that were propagated through *England* to pay Homage to the infernal *Laud* at the Expence of the Nation's Peace and Welfare. *Respect*, *Compliance*, and *dutiful Acquiescence*, are Dresses worn above these hundred Years by *Fear*, *Servility*, and *Dispiritedness*, three Gentry who are always in waiting to conduct us to the Temple of *spiritual* and *civil Slavery*. But we have profited little by our Annals, if we commit our Happiness to the Care of any political *Undertakers* either in Black or Red.

Thanks be to God, we are blessed with a Sovereign, who, thro' the whole Course of his Reign,

Reign, has rather shewn a paternal Willingness to humour his People, than the least Inclination to do any Thing that would require an *Indulgence* from them, whatever his Servants may do. He does, he must, affectionately love *us*; for we have shewn, to a Demonstration, that we love *him*, and his Nature is too generous not to be grateful. He, therefore, can never be displeased that we should deny such *Favours* to a Deputy, as *he* could not bring himself to ask, nor even desire. Let our *Adversaries* pretend what they may, our Loyalty to HIM will never be questioned by our Steadiness in refusing. Our Monarch glories in ruling a FREE People, and *we*, as Part of that People, cannot yield a Partiele of our Privileges, without derogating by so much from *his* Dignity.

Having effectually persuaded us, that it is our Duty, as good Patriots, to be very good, and *complying*, and *civil*, and *complaisant*, to our *Superiors*, he inforces it by assuring us it will be *safer*, as well as more *reputable*, to do so; here is a little *Coax*, and a little *Threat*, for us, and, to treat us like compleat Children, he tells us, that if we will be *good Boys*, *this once*, and not make a *Noise* to disturb *Business*, we shall have full Liberty of speaking, and acting, our Fill any *other Time*; the Interest of our Country (he tells us) is not *now* at Stake; let us sit down secure until *they tell us* it is, and then — we may *exert our Zeal* — like a new-catched Bird in a Cage.

But, my Lord, my Eye is caught by a very alluring Paragraph, at the End of the 37th Page, to which I must, therefore, hasten; for it is, in-

deed, a *Coup de Grace*: He introduces it, by putting a Question (which really occurs to every Man in the Kingdom) into the Mouth of a *bo-headed* 'Squire, and then censuring it as a Specimen of the *Unpoliteness* of the Party. This Gentleman, whose Politeness and Humanity are so strongly display'd in every Line of his Performance, is so nice, as to be terribly offended at the Coarseness of this Expression. But, I believe, some will be brought to think with me, that this Interrogatory is put in the strongest Terms that Conciseness will admit of, and that in the two Words, *Parson* and *Dragoon*, is implied the whole Force of that Argument which Thousands of honest Hearts are, at this Moment, replete with; in this Sense are they to be taken, and not as indecent or scurrilous Appellations. *Parson* and *Dragoon* are useful, proper, and unblameable, acting in their Spheres, at a Visitation, or Review; but to assume the Direction of a Kingdom, abounding with their Superiors in Family, Fortune, and real Consequence, can never be reconciled to common Reason, and common Spirit; to remind them of their *proper Occupations* becomes then the only Method of pointing out the Impropriety of their insolent Ambition.

But this was to be passed over by the Author; his Intent was sufficiently answered, if an Odium could any Way be thrown on the 'Squires, a Set of Men very obnoxious to him and his Patrons, and a formidable Obstruction to their Measures. You see he allows, in this Place, that, by *such*,
the

the *Opposition* is conducted; for which Truth we thank him, and glory in the Concession.

But we must speak of these *our Governors* in *fair Words* and *civil Language*; nay, however they may remind us of their original and proper Callings by their Conduct, yet Memory and Reason must be stifled, and, act as they may, they must be respected; one, as *his Majesty's Minister*, (he gives no other Reason) and the other for his *Birth, Fortune, and Qualities*; besides, he read Logic in *our University*; an eternal Honour to that Seat of Learning; for this Logic he now displays in his *energetic Orations* for the Good of this Kingdom, which (our Author says) he, upon all Occasions, endeavours his utmost to promote. In short, he *has promoted several of our Countrymen to high Stations*, and now humbly begs Leave to have universal Power, in order to continue his Benevolence to the *Irish Nation*, and serve them in the Lump, whom, before, he could only serve by Individuals.

But the best is to come. — “Why not,” says our Author, “why should we not be governed “by a Parson and a Dragoon, if the King pleases “to delegate to them his Power?” — Why really, good Sir, I believe they take Care already to be properly respected, and obeyed, in those several Provinces to which the King has appointed them; nor have I heard any Murmurs against the *public Authority* with which one of them is honoured; so far, I allow, your Question extremely pertinent, and when the King *can bring himself* to indulge the earnest Desire which the other has
for

for the like Dignity, we shall, I doubt not, *universally* respect him *as such*; even tho' there should be another displaced to make Room for him, who, we may imagine, has the best, and almost an indelible, Right to it. It is possible, indeed, we may be some what uneasy at the Exchange, (much more so, I promise you, than himself, excepting his Concern for the Public :) we should think too, perhaps, that our Nation may suffer *some* Decay in such Hands. — But, I am persuaded, the leading Men of the Country would wait for a *direct* Attempt on our Laws, before they would testify the least Want of Respect to those to whom *the King would think fit to delegate his Power*.

But what is all this to the Purpose? Does it follow, because they bear the King's Appointments, as to particular Exertions of Authority, that therefore every Thing they propose must meet with implicit Veneration and Obedience? Must every Man, howsoever great and respected in his Country, truckle to two Bashaws, whose *Commissions* authorize them only to bluster at the Head of a Regiment, and swagger in a Consistory? Must every national Scheme be regulated by their *Fiat*, and even the Legislature prostituted to their Pleasure? Or, rather, do they not, in the highest Degree, insult their Sovereign, who has exalted them, by using his Delegation as a Sanction for such Purposes, as, did he fully know their Nature and Tendency, his own honest Heart must abhor.

But, in the next Breath, our Author produces another Paradox; "*The Military*," says he,
" and

“ *and Ecclesiastical deserve Attention as much as*
 “ *any other Part of our Establishment, and such as*
 “ *are supposed to understand them best are undoubtedly*
 “ *fittest to preside in them;*” [his Inference is obviously this, tho’ not expressed] *Ergo*, they are the fittest to preside over the whole Nation. The first Part of this Argument I shall leave to the Reader’s Contemplation, with this Hint, that if the Military and Ecclesiastical now deserve *Attention, as much as any other Part of our Constitution*, we may be assured that, in a little Time, they will be the *only* Parts to be considered, if the *others* do not take proper Care of themselves. — But I wonder my Author should have forgot his Syllogisms; they could have helped him to put this Argument into a prettier Method; as thus;

Men are compounded of a Soul and Body,

Now, the Parson preserves the first, and the Dragoon the second;

Ergo, the Parson and Dragoon have the whole Man under their Preservation. And then, from this Conclusion, by an undeniable Enthymeme, he might have inferred, that the Parson and Dragoon are the fittest Men in the World to preside at the Helm, and govern all the Rest of Mankind.

“ But hold,” says he, “ pray not so fast, *Parsons and Dragoons are to the full as fit for Ministers of State, as Graziers or Fox-hunters, especially if suitable Parts and Education have recommended them to that Distinction. It cannot surely be a Question which is fittest for the Post, be that was bred at Court, and early formed in the best*
 “ *School*

" *School of Politicks and good Manners, where the*
 " *various Dispositions and Tempers of Men are only*
 " *to be learned, and how to be applied, and*
 " *managed, to the Advantage of the Publick; or be*
 " *that has been trained among Dogs and Horses,*
 " *Bullocks and Sheep, where a Man is likelier to*
 " *lose the little Good that Nature had put into him,*
 " *than to improve it, and can learn little more than*
 " *how to make his Neighbour first drunk, and then*
 " *bite him in a Bargain; and if he ever emerges and*
 " *steps into higher Life, is sure to bring with him*
 " *that Awkwardness and Bluntness, which, though*
 " *passing among the Vulgar for Marks of Honesty,*
 " *are in that State of no other Use than to make him*
 " *ridiculous.*"

This is one of the many Places where our Author's Passion has blinded his Caution, and for which, I re say, he has borne a Bang from his Masters; they never commissioned him to retail to the Public what was said, in Confidence and Warmth, at their Tables and other Meetings. It is also one of these Passages which puzzled me, as to his real Intention, before I became more minutely acquainted with his Manner.

I shall do no more, after having thus recited it verbatim, than leave it, as the genuine Sense of the Cabal against this Kingdom's Peace, to the Consideration of every Gentleman of Fortune therein, and of every other Person who esteems our landed Interest, and has even an ordinary Share of Penetration, which will be sufficient clearly to point out to him the innumerable Miseries which a Party, actuated by such Sentiments,

must

must, in Consequence of Success, inevitably, and irretrievably, bring upon our Nation. We must, indeed, be in our Understandings, (as we shall certainly, and deserve to be, in wretched Servitude) lower than the most abject of the Brutes he has levelled us with, if we do not take the *Hint*, and repel these Invaders of our Happiness with a Spirit suitable to our own Importance, and their Deserits.

Tho' this last Passage carries a general Appearance, it is easily seen, that a View is particularly had, thro' the whole, toward him who is the beloved, and well-tryed, Head of that Set of Men, against whom this Piece of Scurrility is levelled; and whose true Dignity, and unaffected Ease in his public Character, and unfulfilled Integrity in every Path of Life, his keenest Enemies have long confessed, is here represented, by a mercenary Scribler, as an awkward Clown, scarce a Degree above a Brute, and *getting drunk with his Neighbour in Order to bite him in a Bargain.*

His noble Correspondent, being curious in vegetable Nature, is next presented, by our Author, with a Simile, that made me laugh heartily when I first perused the Book; and, tho' thus ridiculous, it carries such Virulence and Gall in every Word. This Malignity, couched under a dispassionate Appearance, inclined me much, for a Time, to ascribe the whole Performance to the reverend Mountebank I pointed at in the Beginning of my Letter. You know the Man, my Lord, and his Kind of *Wit*; you will not, therefore, I fancy, esteem this Allusion below his Dignity; if you should, you have but to picture

to yourself the Shrug, the grotesque Look, the Turn of Voice, and all them other Recommendations of his Humour, which I have seen you stare at, while others laughed; picture these to your Fancy, and you will find the Thought full worthy of him. I think you may see in it the Spite that naturally arises from Detection and Disgrace. I may be mistaken, but I shrewdly suspect him. This Passage is extremely *like*, and the whole Book displays Judgment enough to be his. You know how much of the latter appeared, whenever he ventured to digress from the Province that characterised him.

Had the Author of this *Man* considered his youthful-Hero merely as a *Vegetable*, (and as such only can any Excellence be found, or, indeed, any Character be given of him) we might have allowed the Justice of it; but it can never be applied to him as a *Man*. I will, therefore, beg Leave to help him to a Kind of Rhapsody in its Stead, every Image whereof will be universally allowed to be taken from Nature, and is full as poetical as his own.

“ *Behold*, and admire, the Appearance of that
 “ flourishing Tree, which hath risen to the most
 “ noble Maturity, and stands, as it long hath
 “ stood, the Glory of the Forest! whose salutary
 “ Influence hath nourished and refreshed the am-
 “ bient Soil! under whose delightful Umbrage
 “ all is verdant, all is healthful, which hath
 “ protected the thriving tender Herbage from
 “ the *envious eastern* Blast, tho’ attacked, thro’ a
 “ Course of Years, by all the united Force of
 “ the Elements from without, and by the Per-
 “ fidy

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" sdy of those Insects from within, sprung into
 " Existence under the genial Warmth of its
 " Shade, and, when raised from their *Aurelia*
 " State, turned their ungrateful, tho' feeble,
 " Efforts on the Leaves that gave them Being;
 " behold it still flourishing in a green old Age!
 " its Honours fresh upon its tow'ring Head! its
 " vigorous Root confirmed by all the Attempts
 " to shake it, while its luxuriant Branches are
 " the sure unfailing Protection of all that vegetate
 " around!"

" See now the Contrast: — Behold in its Neigh-
 " bourhood yon starveling Twig! a wretched
 " Off-shoot from a rotten Trunk! unendowed by
 " Nature with *Stamina* capable of Maturity, and
 " inclined to wither before it blooms! Behold!
 " all starved and blasted that falls under its
 " noxious, tho' confined, Influence! while Ca-
 " terpillars, driven from the other's Shade,
 " hang in Clusters on its bending Head, and
 " prey upon its Vitals!"

He next proceeds to inform us of what the Pub-
 lic Ear has long been pestered with, the *well-*
judged Compliments paid by *several* Boroughs to
 the *distinguished Merit* of their *Patrons and Friends*;
 we are, indeed, quite sick of this Din; our News-
 Papers are gorged and surfeited with *Puffs* and
Repetitions. And, indeed, considering the Num-
 bers, the Capacities, and Principles of these
 complimenting Corporations, it is no Wonder
 their Friends and Patrons should be so prodigiously
 elated; surely such Unanimity of Applause must
 be the sweetest Music to these *honest Ears*, and

can be deemed no less than the *Vox Populi*, the universal Cry in their Favour!

But pray, my Lord, observe the Repetition of that old last Shift of the losing Side, which our Author has, more than once, endeavoured to play upon us; I mean, the representing the Party he hates as irretrievably plunged in the Torrent of adverse Fortune, and inculcating the *Prudence* of not striving against the Stream. This must be, to every Reader, a Specimen of this Author's great Abilities, and, in Conjunction with the dispiriting Sarcasms in the same Paragraph, and that elegant Morfel of ancient and modern History annexed, cannot fail to strike the Gentleman they are aimed at, and his Friends, with the deepest Despair; perhaps to such a Degree, as to induce him not to wait for the threatened *Tumble*, but voluntarily to resign his Place to the illustrious *third Person* who leans on the *first Person*.—How powerful is Learning in enforcing political Measures! How irresistible are Quotations for perswading Men out of *common Sense*!

The growing *Hopes* of this admirable *third Person* are, doubtless, a strong Temptation to assist him in his Design; For tho' there is no undertaking positively for another, nor can any one promise how he may carry himself when he has climbed the last Step of the political Ladder, yet even his present promising *Appearances* are full sufficient to make us quit, in his Behalf, a Man, of whose unexceptionable Conduct there are, indeed, no growing *Hopes*, for they have long since been lost and sunk—in Conviction. Besides H_z really has some of the *true*

old

old Milesian *Noel* in him, an irrefragable Objection against him in the Breast of every *Irish-man*. Nay, were he fit, in every other Instance, to remain in his *old Place*, yet two Defects there are in him which must, for ever, render him odious and contemptible; one is, his Name, which is so shockingly disagreeable in its Sound, that it has always been a Bar against Honour, Trust, and Preferment, to those who have been possessed of the same unhappy Circumstance. The other is, his Accent, which is so excessive *drawling*, and *provincial*, that it absolutely makes him unqualified to *speak* for a Body of Men, to every Individual of whom he is so prodigiously inferior in this Particular. If these Reasons are not thought sufficient for excluding him, the Reader may see many more, full as just and weighty, in the same Page (42.) nicely delineated, and beautified, with another Quotation at Bottom, very applicable, and entirely new.

The *other*, says our Author, has no Faults of this Nature; *him* we see *just as he is*, and as such, indeed, he is a most desirable Creature for the Place he aims at; he is *Aaron's golden Calf*, and to be placed, by *him*, on high, for the infatuated *Israelites* to adore.

I am now arrived, my Lord, at the long-wished-for End of this Pamphlet, and a tedious Journey have I had; very like travelling through a dirty, rough, narrow, perplexed Road. On the whole, you see, how *free* and *candid* his *Inquiry* is, into what Kind of Matters the *Inquiry* is, for the most Part, made, and how extremely necessary for the

Interests

Interests of his Party it is, that this *Inquiry* should be perused, at this Time, by our *Representatives in Parliament, and the several Electors*. It will not, however, be to its Use, tho' contrary to his Intentions; for, as I have before observed his Violence makes him blab out the true Sentiments, Characters, and Schemes of his Masters. I own, he is so abominably stupid in many Places, that I am not without Apprehensions of being laughed at for being at the Pains of animadverting on them. For that Reason, as your Lordship will observe, I have passed over many Things, that occurred to me, in Silence, and have seldom indulged myself in censuring the mere Author, when the Party, he speaks for, are not concerned.

Gracious Heaven! what a Crisis are we now at! what a Height of Insolence and Presumption must a Party have arrived at, when Wretches, like this Author, are encouraged to yend Treason against the public Good! How should every Man of the Community exert himself in his particular Sphere, down from the Legislator to the Mechanic who votes for a Magistrate! The Cause is the Cause of Honesty, of Virtue, of Liberty, of Loyalty; our Sovereign is our invariable Friend, our Enemies are his, and he will joy to find us steady and resolute in preserving the Interest he has long loved, and on which the Happiness of the Nation absolutely depends.

My last Letter from *London* assures me, that the Design of the Union is determined to be set on Foot here next Session; it makes much Noise there,

there, it seems, and is condemned with Abhorrence by every Person but those who expect their private Emoluments from it. His G——, and his Son, are preparing to come over, and, I am told from *Dublin*, that the P—— is so elevated at their Approach, as to have disgusted, and lost, some of his nearest Friends by his Insolence within these few Months; a good Prognostic! so will a *forced, unnatural*, Interest for ever moulder before the *true, the natural*, and the *lasting* one; Men cannot be detached from the latter but by base Means, and on such a rotten Basis can no substantial Structure be raised.

The Event, my Lord, in a few Months will verify this, and we shall see our Administration shake off its present distorting Biass, and revert, like a well-tempered Bow, to its natural Rectitude; while the Schemes of our Enemies shall sink beneath the Weight of that *national Interest* which they seem to hold in Derision.

I am, my LORD,

Your Lordship's most obliged,

And obedient humble Servant.

F I N I S.

Just published.

Just published, as a late Pamphlet intitled,
"A Free and Candid Enquiry, &c. &c."
Directed to the Representatives of this Kingdom,
in a late House of Commons, at a publick sitting, and
being so of late.

Just imported from LONDON,
Not long since, and of an approved kind in
the Manner of the Theatre-Italian. As it is
now acting, with great Applause, by a Company
of Gentlemen, for the Entertainment of their
Friends, at the Great Room in Drury-Lane.

III. DEDICATION or DEDICATION, &c.
A second Edition of a Dedication to his Grace
the Duke of Devonshire. Wherin some curious
Anecdotes are brought to Light. Very necessary
to be known at this Time.

IV. HIBERNIA PACATA: or, A Narrative
of the Affairs of Ireland, from the famous Battle
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Written originally in Irish, and now first translated
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basely aspersed, and scandalously mis-represented,
in a late anonymous Work, intitled, *The History
of ROGER*. By a Lover of Truth.

VII. A LETTER to a Person of Distinction in
Town, from a Gentleman in the Country. Con-
taining some Remarks on a late Pamphlet, in-
titled, "A Free and Candid Inquiry, &c."

